

East Ardsley achieve the impossible!

SUNDAY
MAY 31ST
1957

E Ardsley 149-8

Altofts 148-9

NEVER was the glorious uncertainty of a team game better demonstrated than last weekend when East Ardsley toppled the hot favourites, Altofts, in the second round of the Heavy Woollen Cup.

Currently having a poor season in division two of the Central Yorkshire League, Ardsley were rank outsiders to lift the cup, whilst Altofts, last year's league champions, were confident they could do the double this season.

Throughout the game, played at Altofts, so the South Yorkshire side had no excuse over the wicket, Ardsley were never in command until the closing over of the 50-overs match

When Altofts last pair came together they wanted 12 runs to win with three overs to go. With the last over coming up they required 10 to win.

The sequence of scoring in the first five balls was 2, 2, 1, 0, 1 and with the last ball coming up they required three to draw and four to win.

Mason lashed the ball into the outfield and the pair set off for the necessary runs, but after they had managed to run two an Ardsley fieldsman picked up the ball and instead of throwing to the wicket ran to the stumps and his side were into the third round by one run.

All the Ardsley players were heroes, but special mention must be made of a defiant innings of 29 no by Pat Jennings, who along with Peter Davies (36) and Ben Newbould (15 no) put on 87 runs for the fifth and sixth wickets.

When Altofts were cruising home at 63 for none the game looked to be over, but it was at this stage that Mike Pearson — he bowled throughout the Altofts innings — stepped in to take three wickets and shoot the home side to 76 for three.

The introduction of David Baines to the attack saw him wreck the middle order batting and from 63 for none Altofts found themselves in the embarrassing position of being 110-7.

But then the home side found a saviour in Clinton. By 'farming' the bowling he lifted his side's score to what looked like being a match-winning 134. But at this stage he was brilliantly run out.

Four runs later Baines put the home side at 138 for nine when he had Jackson well stumped by Cairns. The last wicket 'stand' is now history.

Altofts are left to reflect on what might have been, and Ardsley are justified in thinking — "if we can topple the favourites we can topple the others".

Pearson's splendid line and length bowling is reflected in his figures of four for 66 in 25 overs, whilst the other hero, Baines, fully deserved his 4-33 in 11 overs.

EAST ARDSLEY

J Grindle c and b	
Jones	19
D Cairns lbw Hunt ...	18
S Knighton b Bastow	5
G Blakeley c Bastow	
b Greaves	9
P Jennings not out ...	29
D Baines b Greaves ...	0
P Davies c Crocker	
b Wolfenden	36
B Newbould not out ...	15
Extras	18

Total (for 6 wkts) ...149

ALTOFTS

L Crocker b Pearson M	34
R Hart b Pearson M ...	31
A Hunt c Wood b	
Pearson M	4
D Jones b Baines ...	18
T Greaves c Cairns	
b Baines	1
S Wolfenden c Wood	
b Pearson M	1
D Bastow c Knighton	
b Baines	4
A Clinton run out ...	25
C Jackson st Cairns	
b Baines	9
T Mason not out	4
N Pierce not out	7
Extras	10

Total (for 9 wkts) ...148